

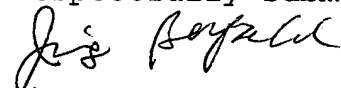
REMARKS

Claims 1-3 will be pending upon entry of this amendment.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by Cariou *et al.* (CA 2199642). Applicant is submitting herewith a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 antedating Cariou *et al.* (CA'642) rendering Examiner's rejection of claims 1-3 moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC § 102(a).

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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